

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 171006
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APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:RCEWING
EUR:GSVEST
S/S-O :JETHYDEN
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P R 062344Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHA PE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171006

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, TU, GR, NATO

SUBJECT: GREEK RE-ENTRY INTO NATO

REF: STATE 167506

1. TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL CALLED ON DEPT COUNSELOR NIMETZ JULY 5 TO DISCUSS VARIOUS TOPICS (SEPTTEL). REFERRING TO NIMETZ' PRESENTATION JUNE 30 SUPPORTING GREEK REINTEGRATION INTO NATO (REFTEL), ESENBEL SAID TURKEY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT GREECE SHOULD RE-ENTER NATO MILITARY CONFIDENTIAL

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STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, THE TURKS HAVE A NUMBER OF CONCERNS WHICH THEY FEEL SHOULD BE RESOLVED BEFORE GREEK REINTEGRATION IS APPROVED. SPECIFICALLY, GOT BELIEVES ACQUIESCENCE TO GREEK REINTEGRATION SHOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF LONGSTANDING PROBLEMS (PRE-DATING 1974) RE AEGEAN COMMAND AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM; CORRECTION OF PAST GREEK REFERENCES WITHIN NATO CIRCLES TO TURKEY AS A "HOSTILE" COUNTRY; AND CESSATION OF GREEK ACTIVITIES SEEKING TO MAINTAIN EMBARGO ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY. GOT WAS ALSO CONCERNED BY SUGGESTION THAT INI-

TIAL TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE MADE PERMANENT LATER.

2. ESENBEL SAID THE GOT COULD NOT RPT NOT COMMENT ON THE HAIG-DAVOS UNDERSTANDING WITHOUT SEEING THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSAL INCLUDING ANY CONDITIONS AND ALL RELEVANT DE-

TAILS. HE ALSO THOUGHT CONSIDERATION BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND SUBSEQUENTLY BY THE POLITICAL AUTHORITIES WOULD BE TIME CONSUMING PROCESS. THE TURKS WERE THUS DISTURBED BY REPORTS IN THE GREEK PRESS, NOTABLY THOSE QUOTING DEFMIN AVEROFF, WHICH PLAYED UP THE PROPOSAL AS A SETTLED "AGREEMENT". GOT HAD UNDERSTOOD HAIG-DAVOS TALKS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ONLY "EXPLORATORY" MILITARY-TECHNICAL TALKS. ESENBEL HANDED NIMETZ AN AIDE MEMOIRE HIGHLIGHTING TURKISH CONCERNS. (TEXT IN PARA 6).

3. IN RESPONSE, NIMETZ NOTED THAT HAIG-DAVOS TALKS WERE INDEED AT MILITARY, TECHNICAL LEVEL, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY NATO POLITICAL AUTHORITIES. US ALSO HAD NOT RPT NOT YET SEEN TEXT OF PROPOSALS. OUR HOPE WAS THAT GOT WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSALS WITH AN OPEN MIND. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT TO SOLVE ALL OUTSTANDING GREEK-TURKISH PROBLEMS OVER AEGEAN PRIOR TO GREEK RE-ENTRY. CONFIDENTIAL

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MOREOVER, WE WERE NOT RPT NOT AWARE OF ANY RECENT GREEK REFERENCES TO TURKEY AS "HOSTILE" COUNTRY. REGARDING EMBARGO, NIMETZ ADDED IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION SOME GREEK-AMERICANS FELT GOG WAS NOT RPT NOT DOING ENOUGH TO SUPPORT EFFORTS IN CONGRESS TO MAINTAIN EMBARGO.

4. NIMETZ ALSO POINTED OUT THAT GREEK RE-ENTRY INTO NATO WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE A POPULAR STEP IN SOME CIRCLES WITHIN GREECE. THUS GOG FACES NEED TO PROPERLY PREPARE ITS DOMESTIC PUBLIC OPINION. NIMETZ AGREED THAT ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON PROPOSED GREEK RE-ENTRY SHOULD PROBABLY COME FROM NATO SYG LUNS RATHER THAN FROM INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS.

5. IN CLOSING, ESENBEL EXPRESSED HOPE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE LIFTING ARMS EMBARGO WOULD TAKE PLACE IN JULY SINCE POSTPONEMENT COULD HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE IMPACT IN TURKISH PUBLIC OPINION.

6. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TURKISH AIDE MEMOIRE: BEGIN TEXT: THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY BOTH SUPPORTED THE RETURN OF GREECE TO THE MILITARY INTEGRATION OF NATO AND REFRAINED FROM ACTIVITIES THAT MAY RENDER IT DIFFICULT. GREECE HOWEVER, SOUGHT A SPECIAL STATUS INSTEAD OF RETURNING TO THE INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE AS BEFORE, AND FURTHERMORE STATED AT THE NATO COUNCIL THAT THIS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WILL HAVE ASPECTS AIMED AT TURKEY. AS SUCH, THE CON-

DITIONS FOR THE RETURN OF GREECE HAS ACQUIRED DIMENSIONS THAT HAVE A DIRECT BEARING ON TURKEY QUITE APART FROM AN INTEREST EMANATING FROM GREECE AS A MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE.

GREEK RETURN TO NATO OR ITS NEW STATUS, NATURALLY DEPENDS ON A MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATING PROCESS. GREEK MILITARY FORCE CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, DEPLOYMENT OF ITS FORCES, THE DEGREE OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN JOINT PLANNING, THE AEGEAN COMMAND AREAS, ETC. ARE REGARDED BY TURKEY AS INTERLINKED
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QUESTIONS THAT SHOULD BE RESOLVED WITHIN AN OVERALL FINAL SETTLEMENT.

TURKEY ENTERTAINS NO DOUBTS THAT THE POLITICAL GUIDELINES ENDORSED BY THE DPC ON NOVEMBER 17, 1975 MAINTAIN THEIR VALIDITY AND WISHES TO BE CONFIDENT THAT BOTH ITS ALLIES, AS WELL AS THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL NATO ORGANS WILL SHOW DUE SENSITIVITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE GUIDELINES.

THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES ARE ALSO COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN GENERAL HAIG AND GENERAL DAVOS, WHICH ARE INSTRUCTED BY DPC TO BE OF AN EXPLORATORY NATURE WILL NEITHER PREJUDICE THE OUTCOME OF THE MULTILATERAL TALKS NOR CARRY ANY ATTRIBUTION OF BEING "ARRANGEMENTS".

IN FACT, SINCE GENERAL HAIG'S REPORT HAS NOT YET BEEN CIRCULATED WITHIN NATO, THERE DOES NOT EXIST AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO IT EITHER. LIKEWISE, DURING THE TRANSFER-OF-COMMAND CEREMONIES IN IZMIR LANDSOUTHEAST, TURKEY HAS NOT VOLUNTEERED FOR ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENTS ON THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE SUBJECT OF AEGEAN SEA AND LAND COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES. IT WILL HAVE BEEN WELL NOTICED THAT GENERAL EVREN, THE TURKISH CHIEF OF STAFF WAS ALSO CAREFUL TO OFFER A STATEMENT THAT WOULD NOT CAUSE SENSITIVITIES FOR ANY PARTY INVOLVED.

IT IS A SOURCE OF REGRET THAT THE GREEK SIDE DOES NOT RECIPROCATATE THIS ATTITUDE. THE GREEK PRESS LOST NO TIME IN GIVING DETAILS OF HAIG-DAVOS TALKS; MENTIONED "AGREEMENTS" REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO; AND TOOK EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO INCRIMINATE TURKEY. ON THE VERY DAY OF THE COMMAND TRANSFER IN IZMIR, THE GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER MR. AVEROFF MADE
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STATEMENTS IMPLYING SOME NATO ASSURANCES TO GREECE AND DID NOT REFRAIN FROM REFERRING TO THE BASICS OF THE RELATING PROBLEMS.

IF THE GREEK SIDE GIVES AN END TO THIS ATTITUDE, TURKEY HAS NO INTENTION OF GOING PUBLIC WITH ITS POSITION ON THESE QUESTIONS THROUGH THE MEDIA. THIS INTENTION WOULD BE WELL SECURED IF TURKEY CAN REST ASSURED THAT THE ALLIES AS WELL AS NATO PERSONALITIES WILL EXPLAIN TO ATHENS, THAT THE DISTORTED IMPRESSIONS BEING INJECTED TO THE GREEK PUBLIC

OPINION TO THE EFFECT THAT HAIG-DAVOS TALKS CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT WILL BE A DISAPPOINTING IRRITANT BOTH FOR GREECE AND THE ALLIES.

ASIDE FROM THE POINTS RAISED ABOVE, IT IS NATURAL THAT TURKISH POSITION VIS-A-VIS GREEK RETURN TO NATO WILL BE EFFECTED BY BOTH THE GREEK ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE U.S. EMBARGO ON TURKEY AND ON WHETHER THE EMBARGO WILL BE DISCONTINUED. SO LONG AS THE GREEK PRESS AND THE GREEK OFFICIALS CAN BE MADE TO REFRAIN FROM STATEMENTS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE ENDEAVORS, THERE NEED NOT REMAIN ANY REASONS FOR THE TURKISH SIDE TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THESE QUESTIONS. MOREOVER, TURKEY DOES NOT ANTICIPATE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE HAIG REPORT IN THE DPC AND THE SUBSEQUENT RELEVANT COMMITTEE ACTION BEFORE THE COMING FALL. HOWEVER, SHOULD THE NATO AUTHORITIES URGE THE REPORT TO BE TAKEN UP DURING THE PRESENT MONTH, TURKEY WILL OF COURSE OPENLY STATE ITS VIEWS BEFORE THE NATO ORGANS. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO BASIS TO MAKE ANY PLEDGES AS TO WHAT THOSE VIEWS WILL BE ON A REPORT WHICH TURKEY HAS NOT YET HAD A CHANCE TO STUDY. JULY 5, 1978. END TEXT. VANCE

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:EUR/RPM:PBSWIERS
APPROVED BY:EUR/MPARRIS
EUR/SE:HDCOLLUMS
S/S-O:RCASTRODALE

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R 081000Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USDEL MC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171006

EXDIS MILITARY TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 171006 ACTION ANKARA INFO ATHENS
NICOSIA USNATO LONDON USNMR SHAPE AND USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
DATED JULY 6, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171006

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CRIMINATE TURKEY. ON THE VERY DAY OF THE COMMAND TRANSFER IN IZMIR, THE GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER MR. AVEROFF MADE STATEMENTS IMPLYING SOME NATO ASSURANCES TO GREECE AND DID NOT REFRAIN FROM REFERRING TO THE BASICS OF THE RELATING PROBLEMS.

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ON A REPORT WHICH TURKEY HAS NOT YET HAD A CHANCE TO
STUDY. JULY 5, 1978. END TEXT. VANCE
UNQUOTE VANCE

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Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: GREEK RE-ENTRY INTO NATO
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, TU, GR, NATO
To: ANKARA INFO ATHENS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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